

Anniversaries in November

Eric Du Fresne, Dianne Atkins, Phil McElhinney
Peter McConville, Raymond Stowers, Wendy Fraser
Kirstie Grevatt, Norah Quinn, Denise Reid
Patricia Minehan, Samuel Fletcher, Mike Alexander

An Invitation to Pray for our Parish—On the first Friday of each month, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in St Joseph's Church from 10am to 3pm. The intentions are for all the needs of our Holy Trinity Parish family. You are invited to come along during this time and to pray for one hour before the most Blessed Sacrament.

information, visit voiceforlife.org.nz

Notices

from Titipounamu Study & Joy-

Online Sessions (Evening):

The Gospel of Matthew with Kieran Fenn fms.

Monday, 14 November: Life and Leadership in the Christian Community

Fee: \$25 (NZD). ZOOM.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2022/11/01/the-gospel-of-matthew/>

Muffin Talk Radio Programme recordings and video clips on religion, interfaith and community available at <https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>

For more information:

www.studyjoy.nz

Pro-Life Facts—In the Acting Director General of Health's first annual report on the state-funded killing of unborn children, she stated her pleasure in presenting the report, and euphemistically referred to the abortion of pre-born human beings as "abortion care". For more pro-life information, visit voiceforlife.org.nz.

A Prayer for Youth and Young Adults

Jesus Christ, King of the Universe,
to you we turn in humble prayer.
Look with favor upon all young people,
bearers of hope for the Church and the world.

Jesus Christ, companion
of youth and young adults,
bless the paths of discovery and discernment,
through times of joy and experiences of hardship,
with the constant love and support of your Church.

Jesus Christ, alive in the hearts
of all your people,
grant that we may
"journey together, young and old...
to nourish our enthusiasm, cause dreams to emerge,
awaken prophesies and enable hope to blossom." *

Jesus Christ, Redeemer of all humankind,
open our hearts to encounter all young people,
to accompany and be in community together,
and as one Church, embark upon our holy mission.

Jesus Christ, in the company
of the Father and the Holy Spirit,
graciously hear our prayer
and be with us forevermore.

Amen.

* Pope Francis, *Christus Vivit*, 199

Mass Times

Tuesday St Joseph's @ 9am

Thursday St Patrick's @ 9am

Saturday St Joseph's @ 9am

Sunday Masses

Saturday St Patrick's @ 5.30

Sunday St Joseph's @ 9.30am

Fr Paul Kerridge (Parish Priest)

13th November, 2022

15 St Joseph Street, Waipukurau, Phone- 858-9383, office number- 8586416,

Hours Tuesday 7.15-1.45pm, Thursday- 12.15-1.45pm and Friday -7.15-1.45pm

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Rātini Kupu

13th Whiringa-ā-rangi 2022 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Judgment coming up

As we get older we get a clearer sense that life is short and that each of us will face the moment of death before very long. Last Sunday, we thought about the after-life and entrusting our future into God's hands. But how literally to take what today's Gospel says about the end of time? It is hard to know what to believe about the Last Day. There are sects and groups who claim to know the exact date of the Lord's coming, and the failure of previous predictions does not appear to unduly discourage them from setting yet another date for Armageddon. We are right to be wary of street-corner orators who delight in threats and warnings about catastrophes about to befall the world. Notice how Jesus warns against believing in such predictions. Even though he himself used the idea of the coming day of judgement as a motive to turn people's hearts back to God, he also said that "no man knows the date, not even the Son, but the Father only." There are too many references to the Final Judgement in our Scripture for us to dismiss it as just a figure of speech. People of faith have benefitted from keeping the Judgement-Day as part of the horizon against which to assess the value of our daily activity. Seeing our problems and our successes in the light of eternity, (sub specie aeternitatis), puts them into a new and different light and one which helps us to judge as God sees things. A devotional advice much favoured by preachers, was "always live as though each day may be your last?" Most people feel disinclined to centre much attention on the last things. Sobering and spiritually purifying on occasion, yes, especially in November; but most days, like Martha in the Gospel we are fully occupied with immediate tasks, busy with many things. Remember the practical advice given by St Paul to some people who were excitably looking out for the Lord's return and neglecting their ordinary duties. "Go on quietly minding your own affairs," he said in today's reading. "And if anyone will not work, neither let him eat!" *associationofcatholicpriests.ie*



St John's College

This week our Year 9 and 10 students were busy for most of the week completing end of year exams.

We held a mufti day and a sausage sizzle on Friday to raise money for the "I am Hope" charity which supports mental health. This was well supported by our students who enjoyed a day to be at school in mufti with their exams behind them.

Tribunal of the Catholic Church

Marriage breakdown is usually a traumatic experience for all those concerned, with many divorcees unsure of the validity of this marriage within the Catholic Church. The Church reaches out in support of those whose marriage has broken down while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage.

If you are divorced or in the process of finalising your divorce and would like information about the annulment process, please contact Louise Kelleher or Teena George at the Tribunal on 04 496 1727 or by email at tribunal.wellington@catholic-tribunal.org.nz. All enquiries remain confidential to the Tribunal.

Young Catholic Leader (YCL)

December 12 – 16 2022, Highland Home Christian Camp, Pohangina Valley YCL is a leadership formation programme for students entering Year 13 in 2023, offered to students from both Catholic and State schools. The special emphasis of this event is on what it means to be a faithful Catholic leader 24/7, not just at school. Activities focus on prayer, service, collaboration, challenge and personal commitment. There are a number of talks given by young adults, and outdoor activities such as physical challenges. Beyond the sessions, students participate in group building, Catholic prayer and Mass, and the normal duties associated with being on camp for five days. If you have any questions, need more information or would like to register, contact Nick Wilson (Diocesan Young Catholics Team Leader) at nwilson@pndiocese.org.nz

In today's Gospel, we

hear about an encounter between Jesus and some Sadducees. The Sadducees were a party of Judaism active in Jesus' time, descended from the priestly family of Zadok. They were literal interpreters of the written Law of Moses, which means that they were in disagreement with the position of the Pharisees, who offered an oral interpretation of the Law of Moses. The Sadducees are described in this Gospel as opponents to the belief in resurrection. In the dialogue presented here, we see an example of the means of disputation that was common in first century Judaism. The Sadducees use the example of Levirate marriage, found in the Law of Moses, to disprove belief in the resurrection. According to Deuteronomy 25:5-10, if a man died without producing an heir, the man's brother should marry his wife and the offspring of this union would inherit the property and carry on the name of the man who had died. The Sadducees use this as an example to challenge belief in the resurrection. Jesus argues from the same written Law of Moses to show that there is resurrection. Using the texts from the Book of Exodus (Chapter 3) that describe Moses' encounter with God in the burning bush, Jesus shows that God is the God of the living, not the dead. Here Jesus uses the same method and texts of the Sadducees to counter them. As the Gospel text suggests, he beat them at their own game! More importantly, in this discourse Jesus shows the limits of our imaginations when it comes to eternal life. The Sadducees argued against resurrection because of the limits of earthly existence. They did not imagine another possibility for existence and relationship with God. Jesus proposes that the possibilities of resurrected life are beyond our imaginations. Jesus' conclusion suggests something else as well: To spend time worrying about resurrected life is to miss the point. The point is eternal relationship with God is possible, for God is the God of the living, ". . . for to him all are alive."

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Ready to meet him

Toward the end of the liturgical year we may wonder how to interpret the gospel predictions about the end of this world and the day of judgment. In the midst of all the dramatic language about wars and insurrections and earthquakes and dangers, we should keep in mind one certainty, that one day we will die. The moment of death will put an end, absolutely and beyond recall, to all our works, all our plans, all the seemingly vital concerns which motivate us day by day. Every human soul must cast off its earthly body and go into the unknown like a traveller into unexplored territory. Cardinal Newman wrote about the hereafter, "Do not fear that your life shall come to an end, but rather that it shall never have a beginning." It is when our next life begins that we will clearly understand our present life. It will then be clear to us, to what extent we did our part in spreading God's kingdom. In these last Sundays of our church year we are meant to look beyond our immediate worries, troubles, interests and largely selfish concerns. The liturgy confronts us with the four last things death, judgment, heaven and hell. People who never look beyond the immediate here-and-now may resent us talking about these things, but there is nothing morbid about it. If we are exiles and wayfarers on this earth, we are drawing ever nearer to our ultimate home in heaven, a thought that need not fill us with sorrow, but with a longing to be with Christ in the life to come. It is useless speculating about when Christ will return in glory, although many in the earlier years of the Church expected it to be within their own lifetime. His message is to be ever watchful, to let the thought of what is to come be a reminder of the shortness of our present life. We need not be alarmed by the mention of earthquakes, stars falling from the heavens, and the like. This Jewish apocalyptic imagery was used in the early Church to express hope for worldwide justice at the end of time. If we love God we need not be alarmed, for love casts out fear. But until the day when the Lord calls us, we go on preparing to meet him. *Association of catholicpriests.ie*

Parish Survey—Thank you to those who recently completed the survey for ministries in the parish. You will be contacted over the next few weeks about your availability to be on the monthly roster. If you did not get the opportunity to fill out a survey please contact Fr Paul or the office.

May this World Day of the

Poor 2022 be for us a moment of grace. May it enable us to make a personal and communal examination of conscience and to ask ourselves whether the poverty of Jesus Christ is our faithful companion in life. From a Christian and Catholic Social Teaching point of view both at home and abroad, it's not just about supporting organizations that work to meet the immediate challenge of hunger or homelessness (Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, St Vincent de Paul) we must also look at the systemic causes of poverty and exclusion. At the same time we must be prepared to be in solidarity with those who have less or have been excluded, to be with them as human beings through a smile, conversation, and nearness. Pope Francis 2022 - "Jesus Christ... for your sakes became poor" (cf. 2 Cor 8:9). With these words, the Apostle Paul addresses the first Christians of Corinth in order to encourage their efforts to show solidarity with their brothers and sisters in need. The World Day of the Poor comes this year as a healthy challenge, helping us to reflect on our style of life and on the many forms of poverty all around us."

IF YOU CAN'T FEED
A HUNDRED PEOPLE
THEN FEED JUST ONE

Mother Teresa

